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II.

Oh ! this heart to the tie ever faithful shall prove,
Which earliest friendship entwin'd,
As long as a trace of endearment, or love,
Or of gratitude dwells in this mind !
Oh ! this vow ever cherished with tenderest zeal
In this heart by remembrance shall be,
And the last dear sensation this bosom will feel,
Shall be sacred to friendship and thee.

AMICUS.

Dublin, July, 1813.

LINES PRESENTED TO A BEAUTIFUL AND AMIABLE YOUNG LADY WITH A ROSE.

ACCEPT this sweet image of thine my dear Jane,
In peace in thy bosom, oh ! let it repose,
If the fragrance of beauty, and soul without stain
Can trace a resemblance, (tho' faint,) in a rose.

AMICUS.

Dublin, July, 1813.

DISCOVERIES AND IMPROVEMENTS IN ARTS, MANUFACTURES, AND AGRICULTURE.

On the means of preventing contagion, and of arresting it progress; by M. Guyton Morveau.

(From the Annales de Chimie.)

IN July 1805, the minister of the interior called the attention of the prefects to the necessity of employing the fumigations of mineral acids, as the only sure and approved preservative against contagion, their efficacy having been demonstrated by long experience, and acknowledged by all learned societies. Since that time various processes for destroying infection have been given and described in successive treatises on the subject, and other works and observations on the success of these processes have been published in the periodical collections ; such as the Annales de Chimie, la Bibliotheque Medicale, &c. and extracted into some of the journals.

These works, however, are not in the hands of all persons who have occasion to consult them. It may therefore be useful to give a short account of the processes, just sufficient to be generally understood.

Portable flasks for purifying the air. These flasks are to be met with ready prepared in some of the apothecaries' shops, and it is only necessary that they should be open for a few minutes, in order to give issue to the purifying gas. When after repeated use the gas is exhausted, they may be replenished with sea-salt, oxyd of manganese and sulphuric acid (the oil of vitriol of commerce); persons who are obliged to frequent hospitals, prisons, &c. should always be furnished with them for their own safety.

The permanent apparatus' for purifying the air, are made to last a longer time, and to produce greater effects. These are also to be met with in the shops, together with printed directions for using them. They may be employed in chambers where there are only a small number of sick, and will last several years when no epidemical disorder or contagious fever renders it necessary to open them every day, or at least several times in a day.

Fumigations in open vessels are useful in much more important cases ; for, as several authors who have written on the subject have observed, it is a very mistaken idea to suppose that simple apparatus, such as those above-mentioned, are sufficient to purify vast apartments where the sick are crowded, or where the infection rages.

In these cases, therefore, fumigations in large open vessels become necessary, and happily they can be easily prepared in a very short time. The only distinction to be observed in the process, independent of the proportions that are requisite, according to the space that is to be fumigated, is, when the vessels are to be used in apartments actually occupied, or in empty ones.

First, for example, in a room of the dimensions of 40 feet by 20, which has been occupied by sick persons, and is cleared of them, an earthen vessel should be placed containing a mixture composed of common salt,

	decgr.	oz.
About 80 decigrammes 10 oz.		
Black oxyd of manganese in powder, about....................................	6	2
After the vessel is put in the requisite place, pour in the sulphuric acid, about............................	25	8

The doors and windows should be closed, and the room not entered for ten or twelve hours.

It must be evident that the quantity may be reduced or augmented in proportion to the space to be fumigated, or according to the intensity of the infection, or the nature of the contagion.

Sulphuric acid is known in commerce by the name *oil of vitriol.* The oxyd of manganese is to be met with at all the druggists, and it need only be coarsely pulverised; however, if this mineral cannot be procured in time, common salt and sulphuric acid alone may be used, the fumigation will only be less powerful and less speedy in its effects.

Second, in apartments that are actually occupied by the sick, and frequented by those that attend upon them, an inconvenient excess may be avoided, by causing a successive disengagement of the purifying gas until the contagious air of the apartment is saturated with it; for this purpose the quantity of salt and manganese must be more accurately regulated, and the sulphuric acid must be diluted with an equal quantity of water before it is poured on; it should also be poured on in small quantities at different intervals, in order to avoid causing a sudden heat which might break the vessels.

If any embarrassment occurs about regulating the quantity, the following method may be adopted: it consists in carrying through the rooms a vessel containing the mixture of salt and manganese, the person that carries it should have it fixed upon a support in one hand, and in the other he should hold a flask containing diluted sulphuric acid, and from time to time he should pour a few drops of it into the mixture. The sensation that it causes will be a certain test by which to judge, when the vapours are too weak or too strong.

Fire was at first employed in these operations, but it is now acknowledged that they are equally effective without, and the trouble of what is gained in the more complete decomposition of the materials, is not of consequence enough to compensate for the difficulty and trouble of placing the vessels on a chafing-dish.

Description of a Vapour, Fumigation, or Shower Bath, adapted, at a small expense, for the Use of Public Hospitals or Private Families; by James Cumming, of Denbigh, in Wales.

(From the Transactions of the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce.)

Having been led to form a very favourable opinion of vapour bathing, and daily meeting with cases that promised to derive benefit from its use, I was induced to send for Dr. Kentish's Treatise, second edition, on that subject, immediately on seeing it advertised; and I need hardly observe, that having never seen such a contrivance, I was much disappointed to find, that he had omitted to describe the nature of the apparatus he employed. Possessing however the command of an excellent steam-boiler, with other conveniences, at the Dispensary of this place, I determined to avail myself of them, and, if possible to erect a bath for myself. To those who made the economical application of steam an object of attention for culinary purposes, the steps that led to the present contrivance will readily appear; but as there is some resemblance betwixt the bath in question, and that of the Honourable Basil Cochrane's, I beg to state, that mine was contrived in the summer of 1810, and completed in November following, which was some months before I had an opportunity to consult his treatise, or, indeed, to derive directly or indirectly any knowledge whatever of the nature of his apparatus. Finding, however, my bath to answer beyond expectation, I naturally became anxious to know how far it was inferior or superior to those already in use; and Dr. Kentish having condescended to refer his readers to the Honourable Mr. Cochrane's book, as containing plans for vapour-baths, I was induced to send for it, to certify myself on that head. Having stated this, I have only to add, that every needless expense and ornament in the following bath I have carefully avoided. My object throughout has been, to produce a simple, cheap, durable, and efficient ap-